

REMARKS

The application includes claims 1-5, 7-14, 16-22, 25-27 and 29-34. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 25-27, 29 and 31 are allowable. Claims 6, 15, 23-24, 28 and 35-60 were cancelled.

Claims 1-5 and 7-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply to the written description requirement. The Examiner stated that the term “non-radiolucent aligning feature” is not described in the specification.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. The aligning feature is described in length in the description of Figs. 4A and 4B, on page 18, line 28 – page 19, line 19.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Siemens AG (EP 0 945 103). The Examiner stated that Siemens teaches in column 3, line 47 – column 5, line 35, a multi-element impedance probe apparatus comprising a raster of sensors, substantially radiolucent conductive wiring, a substantially radiolucent substrate, conductive layered structure, and an aligning feature.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and states that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation. Applicant notes that EP patent 0 945 103 corresponds to US patent 6,157,697, which is in the English language and is therefore easier for reference. The columns referred to by the Examiner in the EP patent correspond to column 3, line 17 – column 4, line 39 of US patent 6,157,697. Applicant found no mention of a non-radiolucent aligning feature, as required by claim 1, in these passages.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pearlman (US patent 5,810,742). The Examiner stated that Pearlman teaches in columns 6-10 a multi-element impedance probe, apparatus comprising a raster of sensors, substantially radiolucent conductive wiring, a substantially radiolucent substrate, conductive layered structure and an aligning feature wherein the conductive layered structure comprises a material having conductivity substantially similar to the conductivity of the tissue.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and states that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation.

Applicant carefully read columns 6-10 of US patent 5,810,742 and found no mention of substantially radiolucent conductive wiring, a substantially radiolucent substrate, or an aligning feature. It would be helpful if the Examiner would point to the exact lines to which the Examiner refers and/or would cite the applicable passages.

As explained in the previous response to office action, claim 1 requires that the probe apparatus includes substantially radiolucent sensors, wires and substrate with a non-radiolucent aligning feature. Pearlman discusses X-ray imaging on column 20, lines 6-39. Pearlman, however, does not teach or suggest using a non-radiolucent aligning feature. The dependent claims are patentable at least because they depend on allowable claims.

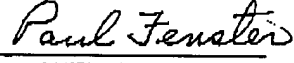
Claims 14, 16-22, 30 and 32-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Christer (EP patent publication 1 000 580).

Claim 14 requires at least one additional imager of a nuclear imaging modality. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of anticipation, as Christer does not teach or suggest a nuclear imaging modality. The dependent claims are allowable at least because they depend on claim 14.

As is known in the art of imaging, nuclear imaging is a different type of imaging modality and is not used as an automatic substitute instead of other modalities.

In view of the above remarks, applicant submits that the claims are patentable over the prior art. Allowance of the application is respectfully awaited. If, however, the Examiner is not convinced and the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation may forward the present application toward allowance, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned at 1 (877) 428-5468. Please note that this is a direct *toll free* number in the US that is answered in the undersigned's Israel office. Israel is 7 hours ahead of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,
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